

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
AUG 07 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application

Inventor(s): James F. Zucherman, et al.

Appl. No.: 10/685,134

Confirm. No.: 4485

Filed: October 14, 2003

Title: TOOLS FOR IMPLANTING AN ARTIFICIAL
VERTEBRAL DISK AND METHOD

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: Mary C. Hoffman

Atty. Docket No.: SFMTD-05009US1

Customer No. 23910

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the
Commissioner for Patents, the United States Patent and Trademark Office,
Facsimile No. (703) 872-9306, on the date shown below.

Mathew Oris (Signature)
Signature Date: 8/7/06

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

This REPLY is in response to the final Office Action mailed April 5, 2006, in the above-captioned application. The Examiner is thanked for conducting an interview with the Applicant on Wednesday July 26, 2006 at 09:00AM, in which the Applicants concerns with the previous Office Action were discussed.

A Request for Continued Examination, a Petition for Extension of Time and a Fee Transmittal Sheet to cover the required fees accompany this reply.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

- 1 -

Attorney Docket No.: SFMTD-05009US1 SRM/AGC
M:\ACraig\wp\SFMTD\5009US1\5009US1.Reply to 040506 OA filed.wpd